

To the Honourable the

House of Commons.

By *E. Owen, P. Soone, and G. Kellett, Gent.*

Proposals, humbly offered, for Raising One Million two Hundred Thousand Pounds in six Months: And also three Hundred and fifty Thousand Pounds *per Ann.* Two Hundred and fifty Thousand Pounds *per Ann.* whereof, to be applied as thought convenient,

By Passing an Act for the Rebuilding of all Houses consumed by Fire, *being for the Publick Good, present Supply of the Government, and Advancement of every Contributor.*

1. **T**hat every House advance the immediate Payment, according to the following Table, and proportionably for a greater Rent, not exceeding the Rent of sixty Pounds, tho' the Houses are of a much greater Rent, which will raise the One Million two Hundred Thousand Pounds within the six Months proposed.

2. That, of the yearly Payment of four Pence *per Pound*, payable according to the Table, not exceeding the yearly Rent of 60 *l.* *per Pound*, there be kept a separate and distinct Account, one Moyety thereof to be applied as thought fit, the other Moyety to be preserved as a distinct and separate Fund, to answer the general Charge of the Sums to be returned according to the Table, for and towards making Good the contingent Losses by Fire and Charge of Collecting.

The TABLE.

Rent <i>per Annum.</i>	Immediate Payments.			Yearly Payments.			Sums to be return'd.
<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>l.</i>
1	0	2	0	0	0	4	10
2	0	4	0	0	0	8	20
3	0	6	0	0	1	0	30
4	0	8	0	0	1	4	40
5	0	10	0	0	1	8	50
6	0	12	0	0	2	0	60
7	0	14	0	0	2	4	70
8	0	16	0	0	2	8	80
9	0	18	0	0	3	0	90
10	1	00	0	0	3	4	100
60	6	0	0	1	0	0	600

In Case of great Conflagrations amounting to a greater Sum than the Fund set apart for the Purposes aforesaid, the Deficiencies to be made good by the next succeeding Session of Parliament.

And it is humbly hoped, that these Proposals will make good the Sums hereby intended, it being computed, that there is in *England*, according to a moderate Estimate, One Million two Hundred thousand Houses and upwards, including Chambers in Colleges and Halls in both Universities, Inns of Court, and Chancery, Doctors-Commons, Halls, and publick Buildings, valuing one with another at 10 *l.* *per Annum* Rent, will raise the immediate One Million two Hundred Thousand Pounds, for the present Supply: and also the yearly Payment of two Hundred Thousand Pounds to be applied as above.

4. Hereby will be no Occasion for Briefs and other charitable Collections, whereby great Sums are yearly drained out of the Subjects Pockets, and the Frauds and Misapplications of the Subjects Charity prevented, and places the Receiver above the Notion of taking Alms, inducing them to respect the Government as the Fountain of the Publick Good.

5. Will be the Support of thousands of Families, and thereby in great Measure prevent the Encrease of the Poor, and supply them with a Foundation for future Industry.

6. Is no ways Oppressive to the Poor who cannot be possessed of any Estate in Houses.

7. As private Persons for private Interests have erected particuler Offices for this Purpose, which have been very acceptable and well thought on by the more intelligent Part of Mankind. Therefore so noble and generous a Design as extends it self to the Preservation, Relief, and Benefit of Cities, Towns, and Countries; and the Whole in general, will, ('tis not question'd,) merit the intense Consideration of, and Encouragement by this House, and meet with grateful Acceptance by the Publick.

It is further Propos'd, to make good the other One Hundred and fifty thousand Pounds per Ann. by

1. A double Rate or Charge upon Post-Letters in general, which will be but the same Charge to the Government in Collecting as at present, and bring in the clear yearly Sum of One hundred thousand Pound *per Ann.* and upwards; due Care being taken to prevent Coach-men, Carriers and others, from conveying Letters.

2. Every Person to pay one Shilling *per Pound*, out of such Sum he shall receive with every Clerk, Apprentice or Servant, such Clerk, Apprentice or Servant, not to be at to practise or exercise his Trade, (unless the said Sum or Duty be duly paid) the Master who receives, and Parent, Guardian or Friend who pays the same, to forfeit treble the Sum, in case the same be not duly answered, which computing, that there be Five hundred Thousand put out in three Years, at ten Pounds one with another, will raise Eighty thousand Pounds *per Ann.* and upward.

These Proposals it is humbly hoped, will meet with the favourable Acceptance of this Honourable House, as being Intended for the Service of the Government, the Ease of the Subject, and the Publick Good, and these Proposers meet with a suitable Encouragement.

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